

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION**

**Call to Order:** By Chairman Dennis Himmelberger, on February 8, 2007 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 455 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Dennis Himmelberger, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Duane Ankney, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Hal Jacobson, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Debby Barrett (R)  
Rep. Gary Branae (D)  
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)  
Rep. Gordon R. Hendrick (R)  
Rep. Teresa K. Henry (D)  
Rep. Pat Ingraham (R)  
Rep. William J. Jones (R)  
Rep. Bruce Malcolm (R)  
Rep. Walter McNutt (R)  
Rep. Alan Olson (R)  
Rep. Veronica Small-Eastman (D)  
Rep. Franke Wilmer (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Mary Caferro  
Rep. Mike Phillips  
Rep. Scott Sales

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Dee Barfknecht, Committee Secretary  
Sheri Heffelfinger, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing: HB 95, HB 131, HB 547, HB 562

**HEARING ON HB 131**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:03:17 Rep. Jon Sesso (D), HD 76, opened the hearing on HB 131, Generally revise public employee retirement laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:10:32 Sen. Dave Lewis

00:13:06 David Ewer, Budget Director, Office of the Governor

00:22:55 Leo Berry, Association of Retired Public Employees

00:26:54 Boyce Fowler, Volunteer Advocate for AARP Montana

**EXHIBIT(sth28a01)**

00:28:47 Tom Schneider, Montana Public Employees' Association

00:31:54 Denver Henderson, Student Lobbyist, UM

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:34:25 Roxanne Minnehan, Executive Director, Public Employees' Retirement System

**EXHIBIT(sth28a02)**

00:42:35 Carole Carey, President, Public Employees' Retirement System Board

**EXHIBIT(sth28a03)**

00:45:57 Sheryl Wood, Associate Director, Montana Association of Counties

00:47:26 Jim Kembel, Montana Police Protective Association and Montana Association of Chiefs of Police

**EXHIBIT(sth28a04)**

00:49:13 Mark Taylor, Montana State Highway Patrol

00:50:46 Doug Neil, Montana State Firemens' Association

00:51:51 Jack Tretheway, Montana State Council Of Firefighters

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:52:35 Rep. Jacobson

00:54:06 Mr. Berry

00:55:50 Rep. Jacobson

00:56:11 Ms. Minnehan

00:56:19 Rep. Jacobson

00:56:45 Mr. Ewer

00:58:18 Rep. Jacobson

00:58:58 Mr. Ewer

01:01:24 Rep. Dickenson

01:01:35 Mr. Ewer

01:04:19 Rep. Barrett  
01:05:26 Mr. Henderson  
01:06:11 Rep. Barrett  
01:06:26 Mr. Henderson  
01:06:34 Rep. Barrett  
01:07:20 Mr. Ewer  
01:10:18 Rep. Barrett  
01:10:24 Rep. Small-Eastman  
01:10:45 Carroll South, Executive Director, Montana Board of  
Investments  
01:12:53 Rep. Small-Eastman  
01:13:09 Mr. South  
01:13:42 Rep. Wilmer  
01:14:06 Mr. South  
01:15:16 Rep. Wilmer  
01:15:34 Mr. South  
01:16:57 Chairman Himmelberger  
01:17:20 Rep. Wilmer  
01:17:54 Mr. Ewer  
01:18:49 Rep. Wilmer  
01:19:11 Mr. Ewer  
01:19:38 Rep. Olson

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:20:03 Rep. Sesso  
[EXHIBIT](#)(sth28a05)

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**HEARING ON HB 95**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:28:40 Rep. Alan Olson (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HB  
95, Provide increase in employer contribution to  
optional retirement program.  
[EXHIBIT](#)(sth28a06)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:32:59 Michael Kupilik, Professor, Montana State University  
01:36:39 Craig Paulauskis, Professor, Montana State University  
[EXHIBIT](#)(sth28a07)  
01:45:06 Erik Burke, Montana Education Association/Montana  
Federation of Teachers  
01:47:17 Denver Henderson, Student Lobbyist, UM

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

01:47:48 Kevin McRae, Director of Labor Relations, Montana  
University System

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:50:36 Rep. Jones  
01:50:50 Mr. McRae  
01:52:09 Rep. Henry  
01:53:15 Rep. Olson  
01:54:18 Rep. Barrett  
01:54:56 Mr. Kupilik  
01:57:02 Mr. Paulauskis

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:57:10 Rep. Olson  
  
01:59:52 Break  
02:16:43 Reconvene

**HEARING ON HB 547**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:17:01 Rep. John Sinrud (R), HD 67, opened the hearing on HB  
547, Revise laws governing legislative branch.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:**

02:18:52 Mr. Ewer

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:24:01 Rep. Ingraham  
02:24:15 Rep. Sinrud  
02:26:23 Chairman Himmelberger  
02:26:43 Rep. Dickenson  
02:26:53 Sheri Heffelfinger  
02:30:22 Rep. Small-Eastman  
02:30:30 Ms. Heffelfinger  
02:31:09 Rep. Hendrick

02:31:24 Susan Fox, Executive Director, Legislative Services  
Division  
02:34:55 Rep. Hendrick  
02:35:15 Ms. Fox  
02:35:34 Chairman Himmelberger  
02:35:56 Ms. Fox  
02:36:46 Chairman Himmelberger  
02:36:57 Ms. Fox  
02:39:08 Rep. Small-Eastman  
02:40:08 Rep. Sinrud  
02:40:49 Rep. Small-Eastman  
02:41:44 Rep. Sinrud  
02:42:08 Rep. Wilmer  
02:42:37 Rep. Sinrud

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:42:46 Rep. Sinrud

**HEARING ON HB 562**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

02:44:43 Rep. Wanda Grinde (D), HD 48, opened the hearing on HB  
562, Revise laws governing constituency accounts.

**EXHIBIT**(sth28a08)

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:51:35 Rep. Dickenson  
02:52:15 Rep. Grinde  
02:53:02 Rep. Dickenson  
02:54:08 Rep. Grinde  
02:54:16 Rep. Hendrick  
02:55:31 Rep. Grinde  
02:56:05 Rep. Hendrick  
02:56:29 Rep. Grinde  
02:56:51 Dennis Unsworth, Commissioner of Political Practices  
02:57:42 Rep. Hendrick  
02:58:14 Mr. Unsworth  
02:59:02 Rep. Olson

02:59:28 Mr. Unsworth  
03:01:30 Rep. Olson  
03:02:01 Chairman Himmelberger  
03:02:26 Mr. Unsworth  
03:03:27 Rep. Ankney  
03:04:16 Rep. Grinde  
03:04:50 Rep. Jacobson  
03:05:29 Rep. Grinde  
03:05:42 Rep. Jacobson  
03:06:09 Rep. Grinde  
03:06:29 Rep. Jacobson  
03:06:46 Rep. Grinde

**Closing by Sponsor:**

03:06:56 Rep. Grinde

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**ADJOURNMENT**

03:09:38 Adjournment

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REP. DENNIS HIMMELBERGER, Chairman

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DEE BARFKNECHT, Secretary

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Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([sth28aad.pdf](#))**